

HAYTI.

A Succession of Revolutions—Their Investigators—The Lamentable Condition of the Country.

In view of the recent execution of Salnave, the following letter, published in the New York Tribune, will possess unusual interest:

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Jan. 9.—Now that the Government of Salnave has been overthrown, after a struggle lasting for nearly three years, a brief review of the revolutions through which Hayti has passed since her independence was gained may not be regarded as inopportune. The subject is full of a peculiar interest, and the short history I now propose to pen may, perhaps, be found not the least interesting chapter in the annals of the New World. Hayti, the first spot in America where the European discoverer set foot—the first soil in the Western Hemisphere watered by the sweat of African slaves—the first community in the world that witnessed the abolition of African slavery and the political enfranchisement of the blacker in modern times—Hayti, so full of thrilling historic recollections, is still the theatre where the great problem of the capacity of the negro race for self-government and civilized progress is being most laboriously, and, I may add, impatiently worked out.

It is from such a commanding point of view that one must study the civil wars and internal commotions that have not ceased to agitate the bosom of society in this island since 1790, in order to obtain a just appreciation of the late desperate struggle which has threatened the overthrow, if possible, of the national existence of Hayti itself, by seriously menacing the destruction of its sovereign independence.

For eighty years past, that is, since 1790, when the men of color of San Domingo demanded equal political rights at the bar of the National Assembly of France, society in this island has carried on one long and protracted revolt against the unjust proscriptions and unreasonable distinctions of caste.

From 1790 to 1804 the Haytiens were engaged in a terrible hand-to-hand struggle against patriarchal slavery; and had the satisfaction of seeing their desperate efforts crowned with success, in the branding of African slavery as a crime, long before the so-called Christian and civilized nations of Europe and America had legislated against the African slave trade as piracy. The United States, the first to legislate on the subject, only provided in their Constitution that this abominable traffic should be deemed piracy from and after 1808, that is, five years after the independence of Hayti had been established. From 1806 to 1820, or thereabouts, Haytian society entered upon its second revolutionary phase, in a struggle against the brute force of an ignorant military feudalism that trampled on the rights of its citizens. After the war of independence, the military chieftains who had conducted that struggle to a successful issue were, by a sentiment of national gratitude, deservedly given the first place in the affections of their countrymen. As there were a great many of those leaders who had distinguished themselves in that trouble, they were arrayed in hierarchical order, according to the amount of energy they had shown in triumphing over their inhuman oppressors. Accordingly the most ferocious and ignorant generals were placed in the first rank, and at the head of them the more humane Dessalines. He was, accordingly, made the first ruler of Hayti, under the title of Governor-General, but he afterwards usurped the title of Emperor. The nation, in naming such a chieftain, behaved exactly like every other race of men in the infancy of society; and this ruler, in usurping a more ambitious title, acted precisely like the First Consul of France at the beginning of this century, and like the first President of the same great nation at the middle of the same century.

But the savage infancy of Haytian society was of short duration. After bearing the yoke for two years it revolted. Through a struggle beginning with the assassination of the Emperor Dessalines in 1806, and ending with the suicide of King Christophe in 1820, a series of revolutions, in point of brute force, the Haytian people succeeded in delivering their country from a reign of ignorance, though not entirely in ridding it of the reign of a military feudalism, now somewhat modified by intelligence. When Christophe would not accept the Presidency offered to him by the Senate under a written constitution, after the tyrant Dessalines had been despatched, Petion, the third revolutionary general in rank, was elected and accepted. Christophe resisted both him and the Senate, and succeeded in dividing the island into distinct governments, making himself king in the northern part, while Petion remained President of the south and west. Petion was an educated man, and laid the basis of civil institutions in Hayti. At his death, in 1818, the fourth revolutionary general in rank, also a man of intelligence, was elected to succeed him in the Presidency. At this moment the yoke of Christophe became intolerable to his subjects; and a general uprising against him, which he vainly resisted, caused him, in a fit of desperation, to commit suicide. The institutions founded by Petion in the West and South not only spread over the North but also over the Spanish quarter in the East, and the government of Boyer was eventually consolidated over the whole island. The country entered upon the reign of law. The six codes of Hayti were promulgated under Boyer, and the courts of law began to exercise their functions freely. But the social regime of aristocracy was now inaugurated by a coalition between the surviving military heroes of the revolution and the civilians who had resisted Dessalines and co-operated with Petion in founding the republic. These, with Boyer at their head, were unwilling to make any concessions to the party of progress, headed by the representatives of the people in the legislative body. The Progressists memorialized in vain for reform from 1828 to 1843. The President, his Secretary of State, and the Senate, whose members he had the right to nominate, remained deaf to the appeals of the young men composing the House of Representatives. The Chamber where they deliberated was even surrounded by a military guard. This unreasonable method of governing gave birth to the revolution of 1843, which, in overthrowing Boyer and his satellites, broke up forever the old despotic military aristocracy. However, one of the old military aristocrats, in the person of Souleouque, was called to preside over the country three years after this revolution, and he, like Dessalines and Christophe, availed himself of party strifes, and set up a throne of usurpation. The country did not obtain a ruler representing the ideas that had triumphed in the overthrow of Boyer until fif-

teen years after—that is, until the revolution of 1858, which called Geffrard to the Presidency. Geffrard was faithful to all the ideas of the party of progress from 1838 to 1843 under Boyer, and had the honor to put most of them in practical operation. During the eight years that he was President he did more to promote the real progress of Hayti than all the preceding chieftains put together. He organized 300 schools; caused the Roman Catholic hierarchy to be established in the Church, to reform the degrading manners of the debauched men who officiated at its altars; opened a seminary to educate a native clergy; introduced steamers into Haytian waters for coast transportation; established a Government foundry; opened medical, law, and music schools; and also a school for instructing Haytian youth in the useful arts and trades; and formed the nucleus of an efficient navy. The culture of cotton, favored by the civil war in the United States, was encouraged by him, in the distribution gratuitously of cotton seed among cultivators, and the introduction at Government expense of cotton-gins—so that this product became during his administration an important article of export.

But in spite of this commendable progress, Haytian society had not yet reached its equilibrium; it still oscillated on its base. Why so? Because notwithstanding the progressive ideas which triumphed in 1843, and received their definite realization in 1858, the large substratum of Haytian society was left in ignorance and superstition. The surviving rival leaders of 1843 became jealous of Geffrard. The new generation grew up in prejudice against a new aristocracy, of which Geffrard and these generals were supposed to be the component parts. Divisions, jealousies, and heart-burnings gave occasion to a class of half-educated young men, raised up from the ignorant masses since 1843, to make resistance to the existing rule. A new revolution found its leader in Salnave, who headed the formidable rising at Cape Haytien in 1859, from the effects of which Geffrard's Government never recovered, and which ultimately resulted in the call of Salnave to the Presidency in 1867.

The masses, in all their ignorance, were installed in power by the last revolution, against which whatever is left of intelligence and civilization in the country has been struggling with a deadly tenacity, in order to prevent an entire relapse of Haytian society into barbarism. Superior intelligence and civilization have at length prevailed, but caste and aristocratic cliques ought now to be at an end in Hayti. The roughest pique of the mountains holds with the most accomplished native of the cities the much coveted brevet of general. With the terror which his pointed spear has spread around the aristocratic cities of the South lately in rebellion against the Government of which he is a devoted soldier, the pique has conquered a respect for his class which cannot be disregarded by any future government of Hayti without peril of being instantly overthrown. The present, I trust, is the last important revolution in Hayti. Although a counter-revolution may be necessary to settle definitely the idea gained by Salnave's advent to power, as 1858 was needed to supplement 1843, yet the rights of the democracy have now been vindicated past recall, and Hayti is ready to enter upon a career of peace.

MARRIAGE.

He Writes About Chinamen and Desperadoes. From the Buffalo Express. One of California's curiosities the people in the States will some day become familiar with through the Pacific Railroad. I mean the Chinamen. California contains 70,000 of them, and every ship brings more. There is a Chinese quarter in every city and village in California and Nevada, for Boards of Aldermen will not allow them to live all around town, just wherever they choose to locate. This is not a hardship, for they prefer to herd together.

They are a people who fondly stick to their ancient customs. They dress in the quaint costumes their ancestors wore five hundred years ago. They build temples, gaudy with gilding and hideous with staring idols, and there they worship after the fashion of their fathers. A strict record is kept by their chiefs of the name and residence of every Chinaman, and when he dies his body is sent back to China for burial, for they can never get their heaven unless they start from China. And besides, Chinamen worship their ancestors, and they all want their share of worship after they are done with this world. Even when the Chinese Government sells a shipload of degraded and criminal coolies to a Cuban or Sandwich Island planter, it is strictly stipulated that the body of every one of them must be sent back to China after death.

The Chinamen being smart, shrewd people, take to some few of our commercial customs and virtues, but somehow we can't make great headway in the matter of civilizing them. We can teach them to gamble a little, but somehow we can't make them get drunk. It is discouraging—because you can't regulate a being that won't get drunk.

The Chinaman is the most frugal, industrious, and thrifty of all creatures. No matter how slender are the wages you pay him, he will manage to lay up money. And Chinamen are the most gifted gardeners in the world. Give one of them a sand-bank that would not support a lizard, and he will make it yield generous crops of vegetables. The Chinaman wastes nothing. Everything has a value in his eyes. He gathers up all the castaway rags, and bones, and bits of glass, and makes marketable articles of them. And he picks up all the old fruit-cans you throw away and melts them up to get the tin and solder. When a white man discards a gold piece as no longer worth anything, the patient Chinaman, always satisfied with small profits, and never in a hurry to get rich, takes possession and works it contentedly for years.

The Chinaman makes a good cook, a good washerwoman, a good chambermaid, a good gardener, a good banker's clerk, a good miner, a good railroad laborer, a good anything you choose to put him at; for these people are all educated; they are all good accountants; they are very quiet and peaceable; they never disturb themselves about politics; they are so tractable, quick, smart, and naturally handy and ingenious, that you can teach them anything; they have no jealousies; they never lose a moment, never require watching to keep them at work; they are gifted with a world of patience, endurance and contentment. They are the best laboring class America has ever seen—and they do not care a cent who is President. They are miserably abused by the laws of California, but that sort of thing will cease some day. It was found just about impossible to build the California end of the Pacific Railroad with white men at \$3 per day and take care of all the broils and fights and strikes; but they put on Chinamen at \$1 a day and "find" themselves, and they built it without fights or strikes or anything, and

saved the bulk of their wages, too. You will have these long-tail fellows among you in "the States" some day, but you will find them right easy to get along with—and you will like them, too, because they will stand a heap of abuse. You will find them ever so convenient, because when you get mad you can snatch a club and go out and take satisfaction out of a Chinaman. The native American negro is getting so insolent, now, that the patriot from Ireland cannot take a little recreation out of him without getting into trouble. So the Chinamen will afford a needed relief.

As evidence that Chinamen are satisfied with small gains, I will remark that they drill five holes into the edge of gold coins—drill clear through from edge to edge—and save the gold thus bored out, and fill up the hole with some sort of metallic composition that does not spoil the ring of the coin. Their counterfeiters put nine cents good metal and one cent base metal in their bogus coins—and so it is very lucrative in the long run, and the next thing to impossible to detect the cheat. It is only greedy, bungling Christian counterfeiters that blunder into trouble, by trying to swindle their fellow creatures too heavily.

Another curious feature about California life was the breed of desperadoes who reared and fostered on her soil, and afterward distributed over adjacent Territories through her Vigilance Committees when she had enough of their exploits. These men were armed to the teeth with monstrous revolvers, and preyed upon each other. Their slightest misunderstandings were settled on the spot by the bullet; but they very rarely molested peaceable citizens. They robbed and gambled and killed people for three or four years, and then "died with their boots on," so they phrased it; that is, they were killed themselves, almost invariably, and they never expected any other fate, and were very seldom disappointed.

San Brown, of Nevada, killed sixteen men in his time, and was journeying towards Esmeralda to kill a seventeenth, who had stopped the breath of a friend of his, when a party of law-abiding citizens layd him and slaughtered him with shot guns. Mourners were exceedingly scarce at his funeral. It is said that Sam Brown called for a drink at the bar of the Slaughter House in Carson City one morning (a saloon so nicknamed because so many men had been killed in it), and invited a stranger up to drink with him. The stranger said he never drank, and wished to be excused. By the custom of the country that was a deadly insult, and so Brown very properly shot him down. He left him lying there and went away, warning everybody to let the body alone, because it was his meat, he said. And it is said also that he came back after a while and made a coffin, and buried the man himself, though I never could quite believe that—without assistance. Virginia City was full of desperadoes, and some of the pleasantest newspaper reporting I ever did was in those days, because I reported the inquests on the entire lot of them, nearly. We had a fresh one pretty much every morning. Towards the last it was melancholy to see how the material was running short. Those were halcyon days. I don't know what halcyon days are, but that is the proper expression to use in this connection, I believe.

Jack Williams was one of the luckiest of the Virginia City desperadoes. He killed a good many men. He was a kind-hearted man, and gave all his custom to a poor undertaker who was trying to get along. But by-and-by somebody poked a double-barrelled shot-gun through a crack while Williams was sitting at breakfast, and riddled him at such a rate that there was hardly enough of him left to hold an inquest on—and then the poor unfortunate undertaker's best friend was gone, and he had to take in his sign. Thus he was stricken in the midst of his prosperity and his happiness, for he was just on the point of getting married when Jack Williams was taken away from him, and of course he had to give it up then.

It is said that the first twenty-six graves in the cemetery at Virginia City were those of men who all died by the bullet. And the first six in another of those towns contained the bodies of a desperado and five of his victims—and there in the bosom of his family, made dear to him by ties of blood, he calmly sleeps unto this day.

At the Rocky Ridge station in the Rocky Mountains, in the old days of overland stages and pony expresses, I had the gorgeous honor of breakfasting with Mr. Slade, the Prince of all the desperadoes, who killed twenty-six men in his time; who used to cut off his victims' ears and send them as keepsakes to their relatives; and who bound one of his victims hand and foot and practised on him with his revolver for hours together—a proceeding which seems almost inexcusable until you reflect that the Rocky Ridge is away off in the cold solitude of the mountains, and the poor desperadoes have hardly any amusements. Mr. Slade afterward went to Montana and began to thin out the population as usual—for he took a great interest in trimming the census and regulating the vote—but finally the Vigilance Committee captured and hanged him, giving him just fifteen minutes to prepare himself in. The papers said he cried on the scaffold.

The Vigilance Committee is a wholesome regulator in the new countries, and bad characters have a lively dread of it. In Montana one of these gentlemen was placed on his nule and informed that he had precisely fifteen minutes to leave the country. He said, "Gents, if this nule don't balk five'll answer."

But that is sufficient about the desperadoes. I only wished to make passing mention of them as a Californian production.

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PROPOSALS FOR STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS. Post Office Department, } January 10, 1870. } Sealed Proposals will be received until 3 P. M. on the 15th day of MARCH, 1870, for furnishing all the "Stamped Envelopes" and "Newspaper Wrappers" which this Department may require during a period of four years, commencing 1st of July, 1870, viz.:— STAMPED ENVELOPES. No. 1. Note size, 3/4 by 4 1/4 inches, of white paper. No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1/4 by 5 1/4 inches, of white, buff, canary, or cream-colored paper, or in such proportion of either as may be required. No. 3. Full letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3 1/4 by 5 1/4 inches, of the same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 4. Full letter size, 3 1/4 by 5 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 5. Extra letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3 1/4 by 6 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 6. Extra letter size, 3 1/4 by 6 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 7. Official size, 3 1/4 by 8 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 8. Extra official size, 4 1/4 by 9 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

WRAPPERS. No. 1. Note size, 3/4 by 4 1/4 inches, of white paper. No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1/4 by 5 1/4 inches, of white, buff, canary, or cream-colored paper, or in such proportion of either as may be required. No. 3. Full letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3 1/4 by 5 1/4 inches, of the same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 4. Full letter size, 3 1/4 by 5 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 5. Extra letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3 1/4 by 6 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 6. Extra letter size, 3 1/4 by 6 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 7. Official size, 3 1/4 by 8 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 8. Extra official size, 4 1/4 by 9 1/4 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

PROPOSALS FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF RUNNING PARK CARRIAGES FOR THE YEAR 1870 FROM STANCES WITHIN THE PARK. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17, 1870. For concreting the entire foundation of the buildings with small broken stone, and cement mortar, and grout, in conformity with the specifications. The depth of the concrete to be three feet, and the lateral dimensions to conform to the plans. The price to be stated per cubic foot, and to include all materials and labor. For furnishing and delivering large-size building stone, the price to be stated per perch of 24 cubic feet, measured in the walls. Also, for select building stone, averaging 8 by 8 feet, and from 12 to 18 inches thick; the price for the same to be stated per cubic foot, delivered on the ground. For building all the cellar walls, and the outside walls of the basement story, as high as the level line of the pavement, according to the plans and specifications. The price to be stated per perch of 24 cubic feet, laid in the walls, without extra measurement, and to include all labor and all materials except stone. The contract or contracts will be awarded to the best and lowest bidder or bidders, who will be required to give approved security for the faithful performance of the same. The plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Architect, Mr. JOHN MEARTHUR, JR., No. 208 S. SIXTH STREET.

PROPOSALS TO BE SEALED AND ENDORSED "Proposals for Public Buildings," and addressed to JAMES V. WATSON, Chairman of the Committee on Contracts, and to be left at the office of the Commissioners of Public Buildings, in the new Court House, SIXTH STREET, below Chestnut, on the 14th day of February next ensuing, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock A. M., at which time the bids will be opened, in the presence of such bidders as may wish to attend. By order of the Committee on Contracts. 17 1/2 m 11 H. C. FUGLI, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF FAIRMOUNT PARK, No. 218, FIFTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17, 1870. PROPOSALS for the privilege of running Park Carriages for the year 1870 from stances within the Park. For concreting the entire foundation of the buildings with small broken stone, and cement mortar, and grout, in conformity with the specifications. The depth of the concrete to be three feet, and the lateral dimensions to conform to the plans. The price to be stated per cubic foot, and to include all materials and labor. For furnishing and delivering large-size building stone, the price to be stated per perch of 24 cubic feet, measured in the walls. Also, for select building stone, averaging 8 by 8 feet, and from 12 to 18 inches thick; the price for the same to be stated per cubic foot, delivered on the ground. For building all the cellar walls, and the outside walls of the basement story, as high as the level line of the pavement, according to the plans and specifications. The price to be stated per perch of 24 cubic feet, laid in the walls, without extra measurement, and to include all labor and all materials except stone. The contract or contracts will be awarded to the best and lowest bidder or bidders, who will be required to give approved security for the faithful performance of the same. The plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Architect, Mr. JOHN MEARTHUR, JR., No. 208 S. SIXTH STREET.

OFFICE OF THE CUMBERLAND COAL AND IRON COMPANY. NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING. A special meeting of the Stockholders of the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company has been called by the President and Directors of said Company, to be held at its office, No. 90 BROADWAY, corner Wall Street, in the city of New York, on the 19th day of February, 1870, at 12 o'clock M. The objects of said meeting are:—To accept, as an increase of the powers of the Company, and as an amendment to its charter, the provision contained in the charter of the Consolidation Coal Company of Maryland, which renders it lawful for all bodies corporate to become subscribers for and owners of the capital stock of the last-named company; also, to consider and act upon the question of a consolidation with the last-named company and other companies having coal lands in Allegheny county, Md.; to arrange the terms of such consolidation and the manner of carrying the same into effect, and to authorize the Directors to effect the same; to authorize the Board of Directors of this Company to subscribe in its behalf for \$5,000,000 of the capital stock of said Consolidation Coal Company of Maryland, and to agree with that company upon the terms and conditions upon which such subscription shall be made, and to convey and transfer to the last-named Company in free payment for the amount of stock which may be so subscribed for, such portion of the lands and other properties of this Company, including its railroad, as may be agreed upon. And generally, to pass upon all questions which may arise touching such proposed consolidation, or transfer of property, or subscription for stocks, and the disposition to be made of the stock subscribed for, and if deemed expedient, to authorize a lease of the properties of this Company or any part thereof, and to make all alterations in the by-laws which said meeting may deem necessary or proper.

Notice is hereby given that, for the purpose of holding a stockholders' meeting of the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company on the 19th day of February next, the transfer books will close on SATURDAY, Jan. 29, 1870, at 2 o'clock P. M. By order of the Board of Directors. J. RICHARDS, Secretary. New York, Jan. 16, 1870. 120 1/2 m

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